

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 02015 230751Z

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, USSAEC

1. IN PREPARATION CU PROGRAM PROPOSALS FY '76/77 POST CONSULTED WITH SAUDI COORDINATOR JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION WHO STATED COMMISSION DOES NOT YET HAVE MECHANISMS FOR DEALING WITH UNIVERSITY FACULTY EXCHANGES/RECRUITMENT. HE RECOMMENDED DISCUSSION WITH SECRETARY-GENERAL SUPREME COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION, WHO IN PRELIMINARY TELEPHONE DISCUSSION, EXPRESSED URGENT NEED SAUDI UNIVERSITIES RECRUIT PROFESSORS AND INVITED CAO RIYADH MEET HIS OFFICE DISCUSS SCOPE AND NATURE THEIR NEEDS.

2. POST BELIEVES THAT TIME IS RIPE FOR ESTABLISHMENT FULLBRIGHT-HAYS COMMISSION IN SAUDI ARABIA TO PROVIDE MECHANISM FOR COORDINATED APPROACH TO U.S. INPUT SAUDI HIGHER EDUCATION FACULTY NEEDS AS WELL AS INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR LONG-RANGE SAUDI-U.S. EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS.

3. WE SEE NO OBSTACLE ABOVE PROPOSAL FALLING UNDER AEGIS JOINT COMMISSION AT APPROPRIATE TIME NEAR FUTURE ON REIMBURSABLE BASIS IN SUCH WAY AS MORE FULLY MEET PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS PROGRAM, INCLUDING ADMIN SUPPORT, ADEQUATE HOUSING AND ALLOWANCES FACULTY AND DEPENDENTS, IN ORDER ELIMINATE MAJOR IMPEDIMENTS FULL FACULTY EFFECTIVENESS AS EXPERIENCED IN PAST.

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4. WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING SOONEST STATEMENT HYPOTHETICAL LIMITATIONS OF CU/BFS RESPONSE CAPABILITIES FOR RECRUITMENT QUALIFIED PERSONNEL ON REIMBURSABLE BASIS FOR SAUDI UNIVERSITY POSITIONS, E.G., COULD CU IDENTIFY AND RECOMMEND AS MANY AS FIFTEEN INDIVIDUALS?

5. 5. THOUGH EXACT NEEDS UNIVERSITIES NOT YET ASCERTAINED WE BELIEVE THEY WILL BE IN PROFESSIONAL FIELDS SUCH AS ENGINEERING, ENGLISH TEACHING, MEDICINE, AGRICULTURE, BUSINESS AND APPLIED LINGUISTICS FOR ARABIC AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE.

6. POST MADE AWARE THAT RIYADH AND JIDDA UNIVERSITIES ADVERTISING FOR FACULTY ON OPEN MARKET IN U.S. AND U.K. AND HAS SERIOUS CONCERN ABOUT CALIBER FACULTY AVAILABLE AND POTENTIAL FOR DAMAGING U.S. ACADEMIC REPUTATION WITH THIS METHOD RECRUITMENT.

7 WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT AND USIA GUIDANCE BEFORE PURSUING FURTHER PROPOSAL CONTAINED PARAS TWO AND THREE ABOVE. IMMEDIATE REPLY REQUESTED.

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